

A Biblical Journey of Self Discovery: Hebrew Scriptures, Vol 1

Passport To Adventure

Age Group: Preschool, 3 to 5 years old

Editor & Layout: Reverend Diane Venzera

Main Writer: Zara Pelfree, Unity of Bloomington, IN

Contributing Writer: Reverend Diane Venzera, CSE, LUT

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Welcome

"There is meaning in every journey that is unknown to the traveler." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Introduction

- This curriculum is based on the Hebrew Scriptures, beginning with *The Creation Story* and ending with *Moses Parts the Red Sea.*
- It is divided into 12 units of study.
- There are 4 lessons within each of the 12 units, one for each of the groups listed below:
 - ♦ Preschool/Kindergarten, 3 to 5 years
 - ♦ Elementary, 1st to 3rd grade
 - ♦ Tweens, 4th & 5th grade & Uniteens, 6th to 8th grade
 - ♦ Y.O.U., 9th to 12th grade
- The lessons are designed to stand alone or to be offered in a series.
- All lessons are offered as a download only.
- The lessons are available for individual purchase so you can buy only those age groups you are currently serving in your ministry.

Program Overview

Focus of this material:

This material invites our children and teens to step out in faith and to consciously undertake a Spiritual journey. As with an journey, we first have to get, "The Big Divine Idea." But we cannot stop there. We must know and understand the steps needed to bring an idea into manifestation. We must be willing to leave home or what we are familiar with in order to bring about Spiritual growth. Along the way we meet some interesting characters that invite us to look within and heal what needs to be healed. As with any new undertaking, our faith is sure to be tested. But, if we are willing to move forward with faith, strength and courage, our efforts will be rewarded with renewed Spiritual understanding. And, we just may discover something magnificent about ourselves!

Each week's lesson include:

- Lesson Objectives
 - ♦ Issue to Explore
 - ♦ Spiritual Principles to Explore
 - ♦ What Students Will Gain From the Lesson
- Complete Supply Lists
- Sacred Circle Connecting Activities
- Story
 - ♦ Bible Story or Storybook That Reflects the Bible Story
 - ♦ Story Focus & Interpretation
 - ♦ Discussion Questions
- 2 Age Appropriate Creative Activities
- Parent Letter: The parent letter is the same for each lesson in the unit.

Lesson 4 - Preschool - Welcome



Lesson Objectives

Issue to Explore

Following directions in life works to create our experiences; just as Noah followed the directions to build the boat he created the experience of being safe in the boat with his family and the animals.

Spiritual Principles to Explore

- When things seem hard and we follow the inner directions we have been given we create the experiences for our highest good.
- Using the skills of following directions every day whether it be directions from others or from within ourselves.
- The Unity Principle #3 I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.

The children will:

- □ Explore the story of Noah.
- □ The importance of inner listening.
- □ The importance of following the guidance we are given.
- □ That they are safe with God.

What You Will Need...

Book

□ The Rhyme Bible

Supplies

- □ Story of Noah
- □ Construction paper
- Markers
- □ Tissue paper, white + rainbow colors
- Scissors
- Glue Sticks



Transition

Invite the children to pretend to be their favorite animal and either hop, crawl, jump to the circle.

Circle Set Up

Invite the children to help set up the circle and turn on the candle. Items to possibly include:

- Ċloth
- Electric Candle

- Safe Keeping Box
- Small Hearts

Love Offering Box

Greetings

Make eye contact with each child, sharing with them how glad you are that they are here today. Invite them to put their hand on their heart and feel the love that is there.

Safe Keeping

Invite each child to select a heart and hold it in their hand. Let them know that you are here to keep them safe. Invite them to place their heart in the Safe Keeping box where you will watch over it all throughout the class today.

Centering Breath

Choose one of the following:

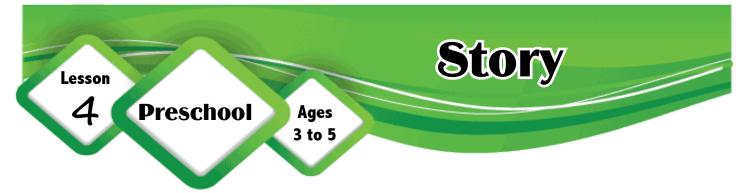
- Breathe through your heart: imagine that your breath is going in and out through your heart.
- Be a Balloon: pump up like a balloon and then release.
- Be a Drain: tighten all muscles, hold and then release.

Offering & Blessing:

Provide an opportunity for the children to give a love offering. It can be money or anything they would like to see multiplied in the world. Use a short age-appropriate blessing.

Celebrations

Invite the children to share something they would like to celebrate. Use noise makers or pom-poms to cheer after each celebration.



"Noah's Ark" The Lion Storytellers Bible pgs. 12-13

This is a story about how Noah built the ark.

Story Focus/Interpretation

As we learn to follow directions from others we learn to follow directions from within. We create our experiences by what we think, feel, believe, and do. Just as Noah followed directions to build the boat, and what to put into the boat he was safe from the flood. When we follow directions we learn to accomplish our goals. Noah created the experience of being safe in the boat from the rising waters. Noah also created the experience of keeping his family and the animals safe in the boat to be able to enjoy the world after the flood.

As we navigate though life following the direction from others and from within we are creators of our experiences

Discussion Questions

- Who was on the boat?
- What directions did God give Noah about building the boat?
- How long were they on the boat?
- What did they see when the left the boat?
- What did the other people think of Noah for building the ark?
- Where are some places that people are given directions?
- What kind of directions do your parents give you?
- When you are at school, what kind of directions do people give you?
- How does listening to directions help us learn how to do things?
- What kind of things have you learned how to do by following directions?





My Little Rainbow

Action

- Assist the children in creating a rainbow by giving them directions.
- Allow them to have some choices within the directions.
 - 1. Invite them to select a color of construction paper.
 - 2. Invite them to draw a rainbow shape on their paper. You will need to assist very young ones with this.
 - 3. Share the colors of the rainbow with them and tell them the order in which the colors show up red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet. You may need to show them the colors as you name them.
 - 4. Invite them to use select their tissue paper colors and to either tear or cut them into little pieces.
 - 5. Then wad up each color and glue it to the rainbow.
 - 6. Invite them to use the white tissue paper to create some clouds.

<u>Supplies</u>

- Construction paper
- Markers
- Tissue paper, white
 + rainbow colors
- Scissors
- Glue Sticks



Share

Any creations from today.

Share one thing they liked today.

Commit

Say what they are looking forward to this coming week.

Pray

Say the Prayer for Protection or the Prayer of Faith.

Close with prayer of gratitude for something in the day or something in their lives: "I am grateful, God, for _____."

Further Reading and Exploration: (For Teacher Empowerment)

If this subject matter is interesting to you and you would like to explore more, check out the following links and publications:

Genesis Chapter 2.

Read this chapter and compare it with chapter 1. Notice that there is a second story of creation. Given the metaphysical definitions on the handout from this lesson, what do you think this second story means?

Mysteries of Genesis by Charles Fillmore

Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.newthoughtlibrary.com/fillmoreCharles/MysteryOfGenesis/

Metaphysical Bible Dictionary.

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/mbd

Revealing Word.

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/rw



Lesson #4

Parent Letter

God's Directions Keep Me Safe

The intention of this lesson is to understand that following God's instructions helps keep us safe.

Lesson Objectives

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"Noah's Ark" Genesis 6:8-9:17

In the story of Noah and the boat Noah listens to the direction given to him by God. God is within us. Listening to the direction within him Noah was able to keep himself, his family, and the animals safe on the boat. By following directions in life whether it be home, school, work or the direction or guidance that we receive within us; as Noah listened to his inner direction and built the boat, stocked it with supplies and food for a long period of time to keep himself, his family, and the animals safe we are guided by direction from within and from others as we navigate through the journey of life even when following that guidance is hard. As the in the story of Noah and the boat the rains fell harder than Noah and ever seen and the flood waters covered everything; in life listening and following the directions and guidance from within and from others helps us navigate the flood waters of life. As we navigate though life following the direction from others and from within we are creators of our experiences

Continue the exploration at home:

For Preschoolers:

- Remind them that by following directions we create positive experience.
- Use examples such as when learning to pick up their toys it will be easier to find them when they want to play with them again.

For Elementary Students:

Ask them:

- Tell me about a time you did not understand the directions that were given. What was that like for you?
- How do directions help us?

For Teens:

Ask them:

- What do the flood and ark represent in the story?
- What do the animals and those not saved represent?
- God wanted to cleanse the earth of evil. Evil represent thoughts that are not in alignment with Spirit; thoughts that are not in our best interest. What thoughts are you holding that you would like to release?
- What benefit do you receive when you are willing to align yourself with God-Mind?
- How is this story showing up in your life?

Definition of Terms

Evil/Wicked--Thoughts/feelings/actions that are harmful or negative. Thoughts that are out of sync with our True nature of oneness with God.

Noah--The part of us that allows us to remain centered and focused on the indwelling Christ presence no matter what is happening in our lives.

The Ark--A place of refuge within us that we can turn to when emotions and events are "flooding" us and leaving us feeling unsettled. We create this place within by filling ourselves with thoughts and ideas that align with God-Mind.

Animals/Birds--Qualities and ideas and/or thoughts.

Water--Can represent cleansing and/or negativity. Our thoughts flow like water, we can become submerged in repetitive thinking - are we having positive thoughts or negative thoughts.

Flood--Cleansing; sweeping away.

Rainbow--God's promise to always be a part of us.

Man [humankind]--An idea in Divine Mind; the epitome of being. The apex of God's creation, created in His image and likeness.

Dove--Peace, resting in Spirit.

40 Days/Nights--As long as it takes. The length of time needed to complete something.